

PRICE ONE CENT.

NEW YORK, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1887.

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FELLOWS BEGS FROM TWEED.

AND THE KING OF BOSS BOODLERS GAVE HIM A CHECK FOR \$523.

WHY WAS THE CALL FOR MONEY SO READILY RESPONDED TO?

Two Begging Letters Written by Fellows to Tweed the Day After the Jury Disagreed Which Tried Tweed for Plundering the City—"I Have Not Received Anything from the Gentlemen Referred to and Am Badly Fixed," Says John R. In His Appeal for "Recognition"—How Can Mayor Hewitt Sugar-Coat This Little Transaction of His Private?

The original of the two significant and interesting letters which follow are in the possession of the editor of the Times. They were written by Col. John R. Fellows to William M. Tweed the day after the disagreement of the jury which had been trying the boss for plundering the city, when, if ever, he must have felt grateful to whomsoever, no matter how little, had helped him to escape from the righteous consequences of his crimes:

Supreme Court,
(Court of Arms.)
State of New York.

New York, Feb'y 1, 1878.
Dear Sir: I am sorry to have to trouble myself of your generous offer of yesterday, but I have not yetd anything from the Gentlemen referred to, and I am situated as follows: I have \$200.00 to pay to-day, and I have \$400 to do it with. As part is for rent and the rest a note in bank, I am badly fixed. If you can aid me to-day, I can return it as soon as I can see those Gentlemen, which will be early next week. Yours most truly,
J. R. FELLOWS.

Lengthwise of this note, in the upper left corner, is written, in the handwriting of S. Foster Dewey, William M. Tweed's private secretary:

"Give Fellows ch'k for \$523. Feb'y 1, 1878."

On the back of the note, as it was filed away, was written by William M. Tweed, in his crabbed hand:

"J. R. FELLOWS, 1 February, 1878."
Supreme Court,
(Court of Arms.)
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My DEAR SIR:
You tell pardon me if I again send a messenger, as 8 o'clock is rapidly approaching.
As Mr. Dewey may have read you will excuse this seeming persistence, I am sure.

Yours faithfully,
J. R. FELLOWS.
Lengthwise of the note in the upper left-hand corner is written by Foster Dewey:

"As'd with ch'k for \$523. Dewey."

It is nearly fifteen years since Col. Fellows dried the ink upon those letters and rang the bell for the messenger who carried these abject pleadings for money to the great chieftain of the Democracy, whom the Times had hurled from his high estate, and when he peruses their contents to-day singular and humiliating memories must arise in his mind. He has never since felt inclined to repay the "loan" which Tweed made him—not even by instalments. If it was a loan Tweed's estate has just claim upon him for the money, from which he can only escape by pleading the statute of limitations.

But it was not a loan. It was, in all probability, a partial payment to Col. Fellows by Tweed for valuable services that had been rendered at the most critical time in his existence—services which the public office held by Col. Fellows up to Jan. 1, 1878, had given him considerable ability to render.

For the three years preceding Jan. 1, 1878, Col. John R. Fellows had been an Assistant District-Attorney of the city and county of New York, Samuel B. Garvin being District-Attorney. During that period the Times made the disclosures which caused the fall of the Tweed ring, and the force of public indignation, as represented by the Committee of Seventy and its counsel, had made the District-Attorney's office assist in the finding of the statements against Tweed and other members of the ring by the Grand Jury.

Col. Fellows, no matter how greatly against his will, had to assist in the preparation of these indictments, and the counsel of the Committee of Seventy, no matter how greatly against their will, had to allow him to become familiar with the details of the case which they had built up against the thieves. Possessing this knowledge—invaluable to Tweed—Col. Fellows went out of office before the finding of the indictments and the beginning of Tweed's trial, which occurred in December. For the three years preceding Jan. 1, 1878, Col. John R. Fellows had been an Assistant District-Attorney of the city and county of New York, Samuel B. Garvin being District-Attorney. During that period the Times made the disclosures which caused the fall of the Tweed ring, and the force of public indignation, as represented by the Committee of Seventy and its counsel, had made the District-Attorney's office assist in the finding of the statements against Tweed and other members of the ring by the Grand Jury.

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